

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 remain pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration. Allowable claims 7 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form.

With respect to the objection to the drawings, Applicants submit that the attached drawing amendment obviates this objection.

Claims 1-6 and 9-12 stand rejected as being anticipated by Kikuchi or, in the alternative, by Fujita. In order to establish that a reference anticipates a claim, an Examiner must point out how the reference identically meets each and every limitation recited in the claim. Respectfully, Applicants submit that the Examiner has not met this burden with either reference. Claims 1 and 11 recite the "predetermining" of "all locations within a determinable prediction time interval that are attainable by the maximum possible longitudinal acceleration and the maximum lateral acceleration within the determinable prediction time interval" "as a function of a maximum possible longitudinal acceleration and a maximum possible lateral acceleration of the vehicle and of the at least one object." Rather than address these specific limitations, the Examiner paraphrases them in such a way that their distinctness over the prior art is lost and compares the paraphrased limitations, instead of the actual ones in the claims, to the prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that neither Kikuchi nor Fujita includes these specific claim limitations quoted above, but if the Examiner persists in this rejection, he should explain how the prior art meets each and every limitation of the actual claims on file and not some bowdlerized version of his own creation.

As for the dependent claims, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons given above.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

By: Richard L. Mayer (Reg. No. 41,172)

By: Richard L. Mayer

Richard L. Mayer

Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
(212) 425-7200

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement drawing sheet shows changes to Figure 6. Specifically, the empty blocks in the diagram have now been labeled.